

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/572,952

Examiner

William H. Mayo III

Applicant(s)

INOUE, SHUICHI

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to February 12, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-7 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: This invention deals with a cable comprising m rows of rectangular elastomer regions having electroconductivity being arrayed on each of the pair of the wide ends, wherein each one of the rectangular elastomer regions forming a rectangular bar member embedded into a respective leading end portion of the pair of wide ends and k patterns (wherein k is a number equal to or less than m) of transmission paths connecting the rectangular elastomer regions by extending between connected ones of the transmission paths of respective ones of the rectangular elastomer regions through the narrow intermediate portion, wherein n layers (wherein n is a number equal to or less than m) of the plurality of elastomer sheets are layered such that the rectangular elastomer regions of the upper and lower layers are mutually in contact, and connected with the external connecting terminals by pressuring the external connecting terminals against both ends of the elastomer sheets which have been layered (claim 1). This invention also deals with a manufacturing method for a cable comprising an electroconductive portion formation step for providing electroconductive elastomer on a non electroconductive elastomer member formed in the shape of the cable , wherein a sheet laying step for layering and adhering the plurality of elastomer sheets having opposing leading ends portions of non-electroconductive elastomer members with bar shaped portions of the

Art Unit: 2831

electroconductive elastomer being embedded into the respective ones of opposing leading end portions (claim 3). This invention also deals with a method for a cable comprising an electroconductive portion formation step for providing a bar shaped portion of electroconductive elastomer on respective leading end portion of the non-electroconductive elastomer member formed in the shape of the cable to obtain an elastomer member, and a sheet layering step for layering and adhere in the plurality of elastomeric sheets such that the electroconductive elastomers of the upper and lower layers are in contact (claim 4). The above stated claim limitations, in combination with other claim limitations, is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments


3. Applicant's arguments filed February 12, 2007 have been fully considered and they are persuasive. Specifically, the applicant arguments that none of the prior art references, alone or in combination, teach or suggests the claimed limitations of claims 1 and 3-4, is persuasive and therefore the claims have been allowed.

Communication

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William H. Mayo III whose telephone number is (571)-272-1978. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am-6:00 pm (alternate Fridays off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


William H. Mayo III
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2831

WHM III
March 15, 2007